

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IACT IMMEDIATE 1922
INFO RUPTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1007
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE

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EXDIS

THE MOST LASTING WAY OF SOLVING THE MILITARY PROBLEM. THE VARIOUS
SIDES AGC ALSO MEETING AT LOCAL LEVELS INSIDE RHODESIA. THUS,
THE POLITICAL BATTLE HAS BEEN WON AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED;
IT IS NO LONGER A PROBLEM OF CEASEFIRE BUT THE PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW
WHERE THE GUERRILLAS WILL FIT IN, HOW THEY WILL GET JOBS AND IN
GENERAL REINTEGRATE INTO RHODESIAN SOCIETY. NEVER BEFORE, HE SAID,
HAVE BLACK AND WHITE SOLDIERS COME TOGETHER TO HIS HOUSE WISHING
TO ASSIST IN THE TRAYHYFION; THUS, NO NEED TO ENTERTAIN IDEA OF UN
FORCES. WHEN NKOMO RETURNS, ZIPRA WILL BE TREATED LIKE ALL THE
OTHERS.

SITHOLE SAID THAT WITH REFUGEES AND GUERRILLAS NOW RETURNING,
PROBLEM OF SUPPLIES FOR THEM IS PRESSING. REFERRING TO THE HUNDRED
OR SO REFUGEES NOW IN MALAWI, HE SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO GO BACK
HOME BUT HE HAS NO MONEY TO FLY THEM, OR PROVIDE FOOD, CLOTHING,
SHELTER, BLANKETS OR MEDICAL SUPPLIES. HE WANTED TO KNOW IF THE
USG COULD HELP, WHICH WOULD BE ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO GET THE
US RECOGNIZED BY ZIMBABWEANS AS LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD. HE ADDED
THAT THE GUERRILLAS COMING IN SHOULD NOT BE DISAPPOINTED BY A FAILURE
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TO SUPPLY THEM. THUS FAR, OVER 500 HAVE COME IN (HE DID NOT
SPECIFY WHERE THEY HAD GONE) SINCE THE AMNESTY WAS ANNOUNCED AND
HE BELIEVES THE NUMBER IS GROWING RAPIDLY.

MUZOREWA ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESENTATION.
HE THEN OBSERVED THAT ALL ZIMBABWEANS HAVE STRUGGLED AND FOUGHT
FOR LIBERATION OF THEIR COUNTRY, FOR MAJORITY RULE, FOR A CHANGE
FROM UNJUST SYSTEM. IN DECEMBER SMITH SAID HE WAS READY TO TALK
ABOUT INDEPENDENCE. NOT JUST "TALK ABOUT TALKS", AND NATIONALISTS
ACCEPTED ONLY ON CONDITION THAT THERE WOULD BE TRANSFER OF POWER

FROM MINORITY TO MAJORITY. BUT UNTIL NOW, THE OTHERS HAVE NOT COME IN AND ALLOWED THE NATION TO CHOOSE ITS LEADERS, RATHER THEY CONTINUE THE WAR. IF PEOPLE (READ US AND UK) REALLY MEAN THEY ARE NOT SIDING WITH ONE SIDE OR OTHER, WHY DON'T THEY TALK TO THE OTHERS? IN APRIL HE RAISED THE PROBLEM WITH SECRETARIES OWEN AND VANCE THAT AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE WOULD NOT ACHIEVE TRUE STABILITY. WHY DOES NKOMO NEED A FACE-SAVING DEVICE? NKOMO AND MUGABE APPEAR TO BE TOGETHER BUT EVERYONE KNOWS THEY SIGHT EACH OTHER FIRST BEFORE THEY FIGHT SMITH; ONLY 2-3 PERCENT OF NKOMO'S FORCES HAVE LONE INTO RHODESIA, THE REST ARE WAITING UNTIL A GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHED IN ORDER TO FIGHT MUGABE.

MUZOREWA SAID WE SHOULD PUT OUR MONEY WHERE THE ACTION IS, NOT SOMEPLACE WHERE LITTLE IS ACCOMPLISHED. "IF YOU ARE ALL INTERESTED

IN THE 'LIBERATION' OF JOSHUA NKOMO, YOU SHOULD SWALLOW YOUR PRIDE AND LET THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLE DECIDE." THIS IS NOT A THREAT, HE WENT ON, BECAUSE THE YOUTH ARE NOW MAKING A LARGE OUTCRY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF CUBANS COMING IN (HE DID NOT MENTION SOURCE OF THAT STATEMENT). YOUTH NOW CLAMORING TO BE SENT TO WHERE THEY CAN GET THE BEST TRAINING TO FIGHT, ISRAEL OR SOMEPLACE ELSE.

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MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE MET JOINTLY WITH PRESIDENT BANDA MORNING MAY 25. SITHOLE INVITED ME BACK FOLLOWING MEETING WITH BANDA. HE SAID IT WAS BRIEF MEETING AND HE GAVE BANDA'S IMPRESSIONS FOLLOWING LATTER'S VISIT TO US AND UK. BANDA TOLD THEM THAT US AND UK (A) ARE NOT INTERESTED IN MARCH 3 AGREEMENT, (B) CONSIDER SMITH TO BE ON WAY OUT, AND (C) CONSIDER CHIRAU AN UNKNOWN AND THEREFORE OF NO CONSEQUENCE. BANDA GAVE SITHOLE AND MUZORLA ADVICE THAT THEY MUST SETTLE DIFFERENCES AND WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER, THEREBY ENSURING THEIR CONTROL OVER RHODESIA'S EVENTUAL POLITICAL FUTURE.

BANDA TOLD THEM THAT THEY MUST ENSURE THAT THE MARCH 3 AGREEMENT (A) REMAINS ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE, (B) IS WORKING PROPERLY, AND (C) ATTAINS THE OBJECTIVES DESIRED.

SITHOLE DEPARTED MAY 25 FOR JOHANNESBURG AND THEN LONDON.

COMMENT: BOTH INDIVIDUALS APPEARED SELF-CONFIDENT, PARTICULARLY IN THEIR VIEWS ON AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE AND ON HOW NKOMO SHOULD JOIN THEM. THEY APPEARED EAGER TO RECEIVE ME.
SHEINBAUM

SECRET

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